



**Bob Riley**  
GOVERNOR

Alabama Department of  
**REHABILITATION SERVICES**



**Steve Shivers**  
COMMISSIONER

Monday, September 01, 2008

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Kathleen McGehee  
334-293-7500 or 1-800-441-7607

## **Relocation of disability department brings convenience, updated accommodations to consumers**

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services ( ADRS ), which provides services and assistance to Alabamians with disabilities, is preparing to move to three newly renovated buildings near downtown Montgomery.

The new complex, located on South Lawrence Street, will bring all of the department's administrative offices, Montgomery area direct service offices, and children's clinic together at one location. Previously, staff from the department's four major programs – Alabama's Early Intervention System, Children's Rehabilitation, Vocational Rehabilitation and Homebound/Independent Living – were split among several locations.

ADRS Commissioner Steve Shivers said having all ADRS programs located in one facility is more convenient for the department's consumers, Alabamians with disabilities from birth to old age.

"Having our 'continuum of services' housed under one roof is not only more efficient for delivering services," said Shivers, "it also makes the experience easier for those who need our services."

"Everyone we serve in the Montgomery area, from babies and their families to teens and adults, can now come to a single place for disability services."

In addition to improving convenience, being co-located will enhance communication and collaboration among the department's programs, which often work together to assist consumers, Shivers said.

"It's definitely better for the people we serve when staff from different programs have easy access to one another and if consumers have easy access to all of them," he said.

The new facility also will feature a more spacious, state-of-the-art clinic for the children and families who receive services from the ADRS children's program.

Funding for the new facility was included in the education bond issue that was approved by the governor and Legislature in 2007.

"We want to thank Gov. Bob Riley, Finance Director Jim Main, and members of the Legislature for having the vision to approve the funding for our department," said Shivers. "In addition to providing a model environment for our consumers with special needs, this investment will help our department save money by getting rid of a lease and becoming debt-free."

The new complex is located at 602 S. Lawrence St. The telephone number of the main switchboard is 334-293-7500.

The Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services ( ADRS ) is the state agency whose primary responsibility is assisting children and adults with disabilities. ADRS services are provided through 33 community-based offices, reaching residents in all 67 counties. In fiscal year 2007, the department served almost 66,000 Alabamians.